

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 IO-14 ICA-20 EA-12 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8551
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USINT HAVANA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: PINT, SCUL, CU, ET
SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN NATIONAL YOUTH FESTIVAL

1. PMGSE CHAIRMAN MENGISTU OPENED WEEK-LONG NATIONAL YOUTH FESTIVAL IN ETHIOPIA MAY 28 AS PRELUDE TO 11TH WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL IN HAVANA. IN A LENGTHY SPEECH, MENGISTU PRAISED THE REVOLUTIONARY ROLE OF ETHIOPIAN YOUTH WHILE NOTING SOME OF ITS MISTAKES. SPECIFICALLY, MENGISTU CHARGED THAT SOME ETHIOPIAN YOUTH "LACKING MATURITY IN POLITICAL CONSCIOUSNESS" HAD ALLOWED THEMSELVES TO BE DUPED BY THE "TROTSKYITE EPRP (ETHIOPIAN PEOPLES REVOLUTIONARY PARTY)".

2. MENGISTU ALSO ATTACKED "ETHIOPIAN COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES IN AMERICA AND THE WHOLE OF EUROPE WHO WAGED A CAMPAIGN OF SLANDER AND DEFAMED THE REVOLUTION SO THAT WE WOULD BE DENIED ANY SUPPORT FROM WORLD PROGRESSIVES WHILE INTERNALLY, THAT IS TO SAY WITHIN THE DIRG, THEY PLACED REINS IN OUR MOUTH AND SHACKLES ON OUR FEET WITH THE AIM OF HANDING OVER ETHIOPIA TO REACTIONARY INVASION."

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3. MENGISTU NOTED THAT ETHIOPIA WAS "STRUGGLING TO ESTABLISH A WORKERS' PARTY...BUILT ON FOUNDATION AND CORNERSTONE OF THE UNION OF MARXIST-LENINIST ORGANIZATIONS OF ETHIOPIA (UEMLO)".

4. EACH DAY OF THE WEEK-LONG ETHIOPIAN YOUTH FESTI-

VAL HAS BEEN DEDICATED TO A DEMONSTRATION OF SOLIDARITY
WITH SPECIFIC SEGMENTS OF THE WORLD'S "PROGRESSIVE"
MOVEMENT. MAY 29 WAS "WORLD DEMOCRATIC YOUTH FEDERA-
TION DAY, MAY 30 "UNITY DAY WITH SOUTH AFRICA, NAMIBIA,
ZIMBABWE, SAHARAWI AND ANGOLA," MAY 31 "SOLIDARITY WITH
PEOPLES OF PALESTINE AND PDRY," JUNE 1 "SOLIDARITY
WITH PEOPLES OF CHILE AND LATIN AMERICA, JUNE 2 "SOLI-
DARITY WITH NORTH KOREA, VIETNAM AND KAMPUCHEA, JUNE 3
IS "SOLIDARITY DAY WITH PEOPLES OF IMPERIALIST COUN-
TRIES STRUGGLING FOR GENUINE DEMOCRACY" AND JUNE 4 IS
"CUBA DAY."
MATHERON

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